

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 8, and 16 to read as follows:

sub D.1
C1
1. (Amended Three Times) A foam having a density ranging from about 10 to about 160 kg/m³ and produced from a physical blowing agent, comprising a blend of an aging modifier selected from at least one fatty acid ester, fatty acid amide, or hydroxyl amide, a low density polyethylene, and an ethylene polymer having a density ranging from 0.941 to 0.952 grams/cubic centimeter and a melt flow index of greater than 10 g/10 minutes, said ethylene polymer comprising at least one member selected from ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer, ethylene homopolymer, and blends thereof.

sub D.2
C2
8. (Amended Three Times) A method of making a foam, comprising:
a. blending an aging modifier selected from at least one fatty acid ester, fatty acid amide, or hydroxyl amide, a low density polyethylene, and an ethylene polymer having a density ranging from 0.941 to 0.952 grams/cubic centimeter and a melt flow index of greater than 10 g/10 minutes, said ethylene polymer comprising at least one member selected from ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer, ethylene homopolymer, and blends thereof;
b. adding a physical blowing agent to said blend; and
c. causing said blowing agent to expand within said blend, thereby forming a foam, whereby, said foam has a density ranging from about 10 to about 160 kg/m³.

sub D.3
C3
16. (Amended) A foam, comprising a blend of a low density polyethylene and an ethylene polymer having a density ranging from greater than 0.94 to about 0.97 grams/cubic centimeter and a melt flow index ranging from

C3 [about] 23 to [about] 69 g/10 minutes, said ethylene polymer comprising at least one member selected from ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer, ethylene homopolymer, and blends thereof.

Please add the following new claim:

C4 18. A foam having a density ranging from about 10 to about 160 kg/m³ and produced from a physical blowing agent, comprising a blend of an aging modifier selected from at least one fatty acid ester, fatty acid amide, or hydroxyl amide, a low density polyethylene, and an ethylene polymer having a density ranging from 0.95 to 0.97 grams/cubic centimeter and a melt flow index of greater than 10 g/10 minutes, said ethylene polymer comprising at least one member selected from ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer, ethylene homopolymer, and blends thereof.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. Such attachment is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 1-6, 8-14, and 16-17 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Lee et al. (US 6,096,793). Lee, which is discussed more fully at page 4, lines 7-19 of the Application, discloses blends of LDPE and ethylene/alpha-olefin copolymer having a density ranging from about 0.86 to about 0.94 grams/cubic centimeter and a melt flow index of greater than 10 g/10 minutes.